



## United States Department of the Interior

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To: FM's

From: DSD, Resources Planning, Use, and Protection

Subject: Cultural Resources Publication

Attached for your use and information is the latest publication within the New Mexico Cultural Resources Series Publications. The volume is titled *Archaeological Variation within the Middle Rio Bonito*. For 12 years, from 1987 through 1999, the Roswell District Office supported an archeological field school that investigated the archeological record in the vicinity of Fort Stanton. Research was carried out under the direction of Dr. Phillip Shelley of Eastern New Mexico University. This publication summarizes the major findings of that investigation.

The New Mexico Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is firmly committed to publishing the results of field schools held on public lands. In 1992, we published *Interpreting the Past: Research with Public Participation*, Cultural Resources Series No. 10. It featured articles on research results from the Fort Stanton region, the Mimbres site of Old Town, the Three Rivers Petroglyph sites, the Pueblo IV ruin of Hupovi, Navajo pueblitos, Fort Cummings, and Fort Craig. *Research on the American West: Archaeology at Forts Cummings and Fillmore* appeared as our Cultural Resources Series No. 12 in 1995. "Three Rivers Petroglyph Sites: Results of the ASNM Rock Art Recording Field School" was released in The Artifact Vol. 37, No. 2, 1999. We also anticipate publishing results of the University of Texas at Austin's research on the Mimbres site of Old Town within the next few years as part of our Cultural Publication Series.

The New Mexico BLM, the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Office, and a coalition of scholars are now formulating a regional research design for southeast New Mexico to guide future archeological fieldwork. It will prioritize research domains and identify site types and data needed to address critical research issues. Regional research designs are founded upon studies such as *Archaeological Variation within the Middle Rio Bonito* since they broaden our

knowledge of the local environment and the research potential of the existing cultural resources. By revealing how thousands of years of land-use history are preserved in the cultural resources of this region, this field school has provided the BLM with data needed to shape land-use planning and multiple-use management of our public lands today.

Signed by:  
Lee Keesling  
Acting

Authenticated by:  
Marcy Romero  
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1 Attachment:

1 *Archaeological Variation within the Middle Rio Bonito*  
(221 pp) (Separate Cover)